

Background



- The City of Wichita is recognized as an entitlement city by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and receives Federal funding for community development activities.
- Specific entitlement funding sources include the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, the HOME Investment Partnerships Program, the Emergency Solutions Grant program, and the HOME Investments Partnerships program.



Background



- On June 11, 2019, the City Council designated \$250,000 from anticipated 2019-2020 CDBG funds for Domestic Violence Shelter Services, in support of three organizations:
 - Wichita Family Crisis Center- \$130,000
 - Catholic Charities Harbor House- \$97,000
 - Stepstone, Inc.- \$23,000



Analysis



- In addition to the City's 2019-2020 annual funding allocation of \$2,806,594, the City will receive \$1,725,897 in additional CDBG funding authorized by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act).
- CDBG funding authorized by the CARES Act must be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus (COVID-19) public health emergency.



Analysis



- Due to COVID-19, domestic violence shelters are experiencing an increased demand for a variety of services for victims and families, resulting in additional payroll and operations expenses.
- There is also a widespread need for various technological improvements for the provision of supportive services to support social distancing efforts.



Analysis



- Donations to shelters have drastically decreased, and shelters need additional funding for materials such as food and sanitary items.
- Shelters also need personal protective equipment (PPE) and cleaning supplies to promote safe and sanitary conditions during this time.



Analysis



- Staff reviewed needs submitted by the shelters and recommends allocating an additional 30% to each organization's 2019/2020 funding allocation in response to COVID-19:
 - Wichita Family Crisis Center- additional \$39,000
 - Catholic Charities, Harbor House- additional \$29,100
 - Stepstone, Inc.- additional \$6,900



Analysis



- Organizations are still required to expend regular 2019/2020 CDBG allocations by June 30, 2020, but have until September 30, 2020 to expend the additional allocation in response to COVID-19.
- It is anticipated that additional funding for COVID-19 response, preparedness, and prevention will be recommended for the 2020/2021 program year, as well.



Financial Considerations



- There is no impact to the General Fund.
- CDBG funding the City will receive through the CARES Act will be utilized to cover expenses related to this activity.



Recommendation



- It is recommended that the City Council authorize the CDBG CARES Act funding allocations in the total amount of \$75,000, approve the contract amendments, and authorize the necessary signatures.



